

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 /083 W
-----090023Z 117221 /20

R 081607Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4706
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS USBERLIN 1541

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT WB
SUBJ: LOEFFLER ELECTED BERLIN SPD CHAIRMAN

1. AFTER WEEKS OF INTENSIVE INTERNAL DISCUSSION, FORMER SENATOR FOR SCIENCE AND ARTS GERD LOEFFLER WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF BERLIN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SPD) AT REGULAR PARTY CONFERENCE ON JUNE 4, 1977. LOEFFLER SUCCEEDS FORMER GOVERNING MAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ, WHO RESIGNED AS CHAIRMAN FOLLOWING PARTY'S DECISION TO REPLACE HIM AS GOVERNING MAYOR BY DIETRICH STOBBE. WALDEMAR SCHULZE, BUNDESTAG MEMBER FROM BERLIN, WAS ELECTED DEPUTY PARTY CHAIRMAN REPLACING SENATOR HARRY RISTOCK AS REPRESENTATIVE OF SPD LEFT-WING. RISTOCK RESIGNED JUST BEFORE PARTY CONFERENCE, STATING HE COULD SERVE CITY BEST BY RESTRICTING HIS ACTIVITIES TO DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND HOUSING AND CONTINUING AS A MEMBER OF NATIONAL SPD BOARD. KLAUS RIEBSCHLAEGER, OTHER DEPUTY PARTY CHAIRMAN, REPRESENTING RIGHT-WING, REMAINED IN OFFICE.

2. IN SPITE OF APPEAL BY GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE TO DELEGATES TO DEMONSTRATE PARTY SOLIDARITY BY CASTING THEIR VOTES FOR LOEFFLER AND SCHULZE, LOEFFLER RECEIVED ONLY 142 OF 236 VOTES

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CAST AND SCHULZE RECEIVED 167.

3. IN BRIEF SPEECH TO DELEGATES AT OUTSET OF PARTY CONFERENCE, FORMER GOVERNING MAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ EXPLAINED THAT HIS DECISION TO RESIGN PARTY CHAIRMANSHIP WAS "A LOGICAL CONSEQUENCE" OF THE CHANGE IN BERLIN'S GOVERNMENT. HE SAID HE LEFT POST "NOT

LIGHT-HEARTEDLY BUT WITHOUT ANGER" AND ADDED THAT
HE WAS NOT YET READY TO RETIRE FROM POLITICS.

4. THERE WAS OBVIOUS EFFORT BY SPD DELEGATES TO AVOID
FURTHER DISCORD. THROUGH UNSPOKEN AGREEMENT, THERE WAS NO DEBATE
ABOUT MERITS OF CANDIDATES AND DISCUSSION OF SOME 90 RESOLUTIONS
FOLLOWING ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN WAS ONLY
LUKEWARM. NEVERTHELESS, POLITICAL OBSERVERS
EXPECTED THAT DISCORD WITHIN BERLIN SPD WILL CONTINUE
AND THAT GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE, DESPITE HIS BEST
INTENTIONS, WILL BE FORCED TO SPEND AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF TIME
ON PURELY SPD MATTERS, THUS TAKING TIME AWAY FROM
ADMINISTRATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING CHAIRMAN, SPECIAL ELECTIONS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL01541
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D770205-0058
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From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770676/aaaacoms.tel
Line Count: 75
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 7a411782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Review Date: 05-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2221222
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Subject: LOEFFLER ELECTED BERLIN SPD CHAIRMAN
TAGS: PINT, WB, SPD, BERLIN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, (LOEFFLER, GERD)
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